

ANOTHER BOY COMMANDOS MYSTERY!



No. 142

DEC.

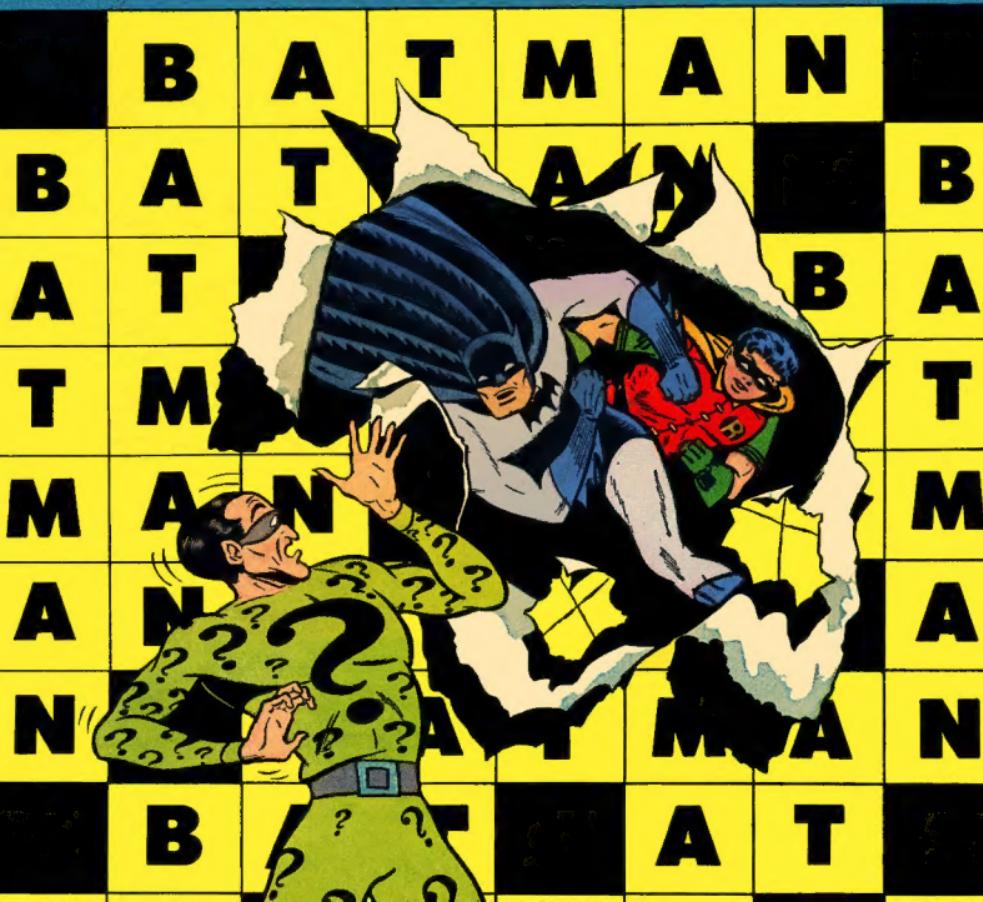
Ten Cents



# Detective COMICS

A 52 PAGE MAGAZINE

TEAM UP WITH  
BATMAN  
and ROBIN  
TO SOLVE  
"THE  
RIDDLER'S  
PUZZLE  
CONTEST"



# "Strike or spare... it's a snap!"

They're so much fun to see...to save! And so much fun to take...with Kodak Verichrome Film! For it makes picture-taking easy as pie. You press the button...it does the rest. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester 4, N.Y.

**Kodak Film**  
...the film in the  
familiar yellow box



By the way, for  
these special Christmas  
greetings there is nothing  
smarter than cards made  
from your own snapshots.  
See your Kodak dealer  
about it—now!

"KODAK" IS A TRADE-MARK

**Kodak**

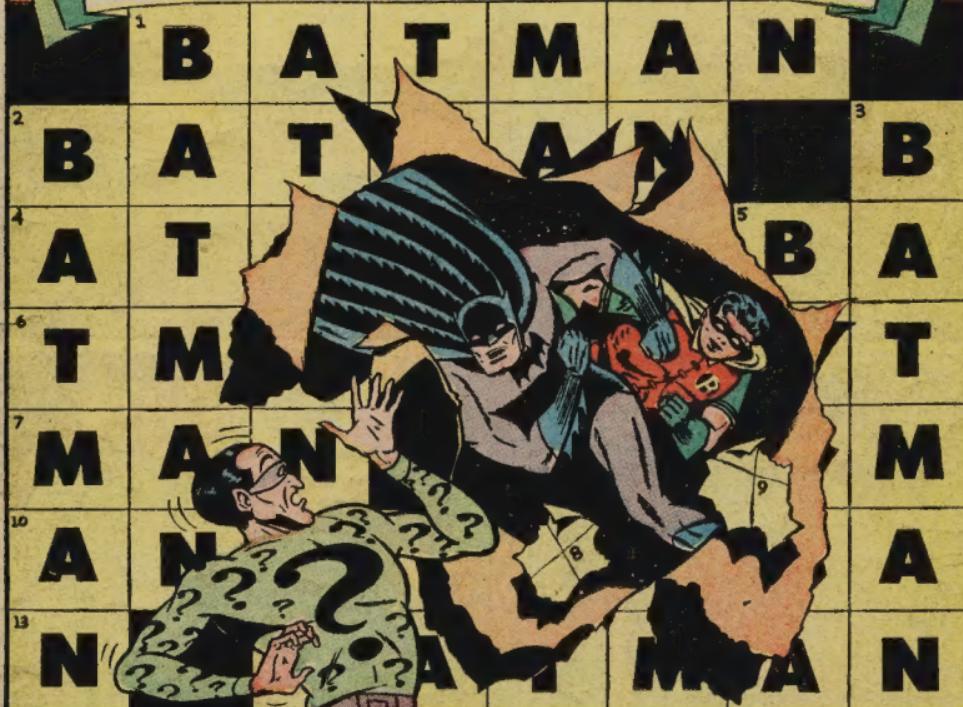
# BATMAN

With  
ROBIN  
THE BOY WONDER

BOB KANE

ONCE AGAIN THAT PUZZLE-PRINCE OF CRYPTIC CRIME, **THE RIDDLER**, TERRORIZES GOTHAM CITY WITH HIS EVIL ENIGMAS! BUT THIS TIME THE CLEVER WIZARD OF QUIZ IS BAFFLING THE LAW BY OFFERING PRIZES FOR THE SOLUTION OF HIS RIDDLES... AND **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HAVE TO USE THEIR WITS AS WELL AS THEIR FISTS TO WIN...

**"CRIME'S PUZZLE CONTEST!"**



DETECTIVE COMICS No. 142, Dec., 1948. Published monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. Reentered as second class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. \$1.50 including postage. Foreign, \$3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co.

205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted 1948 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

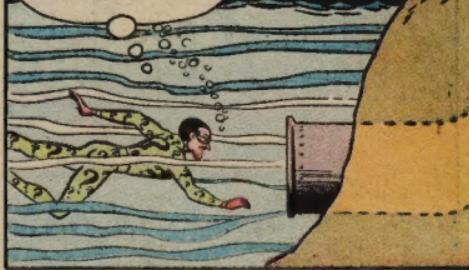
REMEMBER THE END OF THE STRANGE CASE OF MR. E. NIGMA, THE PUZZLE-CROOK WHO CALLED HIMSELF THE RIDDLER?

LOOK—ROBIN! A QUESTION MARK THAT CAME OFF THE RIDDLER'S SUIT WHEN HE DROWNED! GOTHAM CITY HAS SEEN THE LAST OF HIS CRIME-PUZZLES!



BUT UNDERNEATH THE SURFACE...

AN OLD STORM-DRAIN PIPE! IF I CAN CLIMB UP IT...



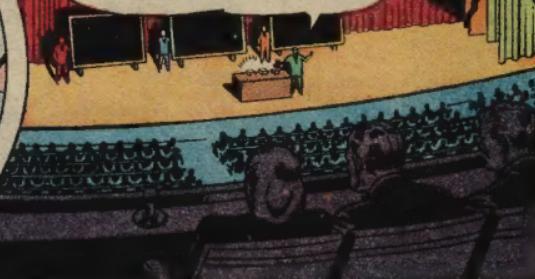
Soon...

MADE IT!! AND BATMAN AND ROBIN THINK THE RIDDLER HAS DROWNED! THEY'LL FIND OUT DIFFERENTLY!



A FEW DAYS LATER, A GREAT NATIONAL PUZZLE CLUB AWARDS CASH PRIZES FOR ITS MEMBERS' BEST PUZZLES...

I WILL NOW AWARD \$1,000 FOR THE BEST REBUS, THE BEST RIDDLE, THE BEST ANAGRAM—



BEFORE YOU AWARD THOSE PRIZES, I HAVE A PUZZLE TO SUBMIT!

THE RIDDLER!



MY PUZZLE IS THIS CHINESE WIRE-MAZE PUZZLE!



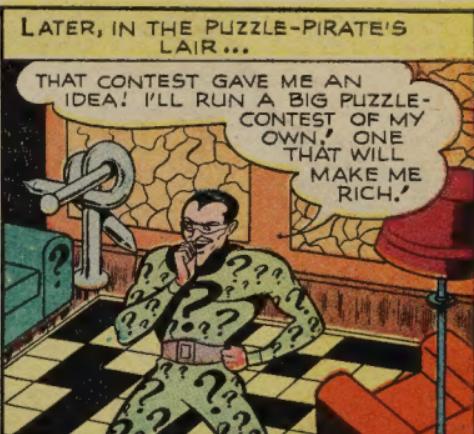


HA! SINCE YOU CAN'T  
SOLVE MY PUZZLE, THESE  
CASH PRIZES ARE MINE!



LATER, IN THE PUZZLE-PIRATE'S  
LAIR...

THAT CONTEST GAVE ME AN  
IDEA! I'LL RUN A BIG PUZZLE-  
CONTEST OF MY  
OWN, ONE  
THAT WILL  
MAKE ME  
RICH!



NEWS OF THE RIDDLER'S  
REAPPEARANCE IN GOTHAM CITY  
STUNS BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS  
YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

FLASH! THE RIDDLER  
IS AT LARGE AGAIN! POLICE  
COMMISSIONER GORDON REQUESTS  
THE HELP OF BATMAN AND  
ROBIN!

I HAD  
A HUNCH  
HE  
ESCAPED  
DROWNING!  
COME ON,  
DICK - LET'S  
SWITCH TO  
FIGHTING TOGS!



PRESENTLY, TWO CLOAKED CRIME-  
FIGHTERS PATROL GOTHAM CITY  
FOR THE PUZZLE-PIRATE!

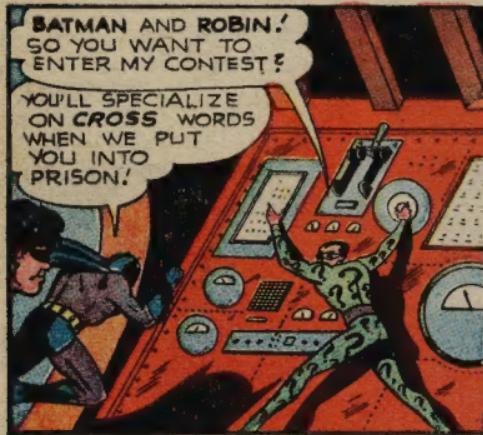
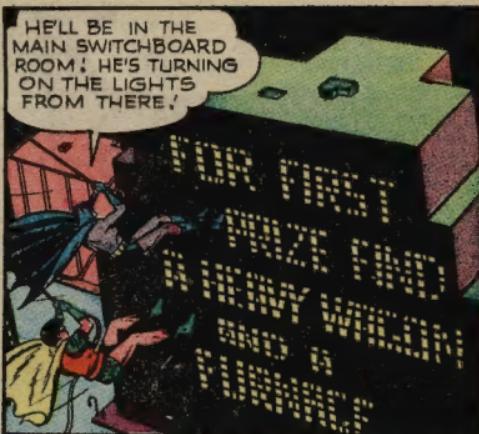
HE'S SURE  
TO STRIKE  
AGAIN SOON!

BUT  
HOW?



SUDDENLY COMES  
DRAMATIC ANSWER

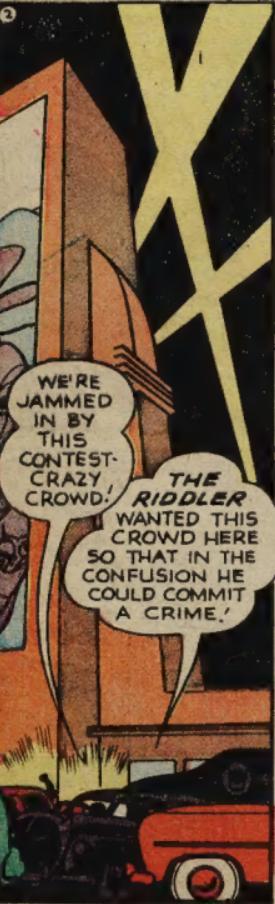
THE RIDDLER  
ANNOUNCES  
A PUZZLE  
CONTEST!



SOON CARS CONVERGE  
AT THE HUGE  
DRIVE-IN THEATER AS  
SCORES SCRAMBLE  
FOR  
THE  
RIDDLER'S  
PRIZE.

THE  
PRIZE  
MUST  
BE  
HERE!

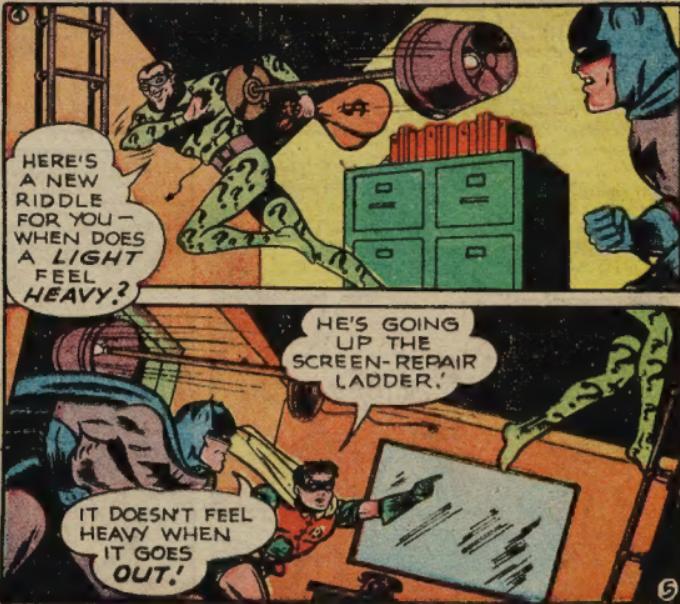
I'LL  
FIND  
IT  
FIRST!



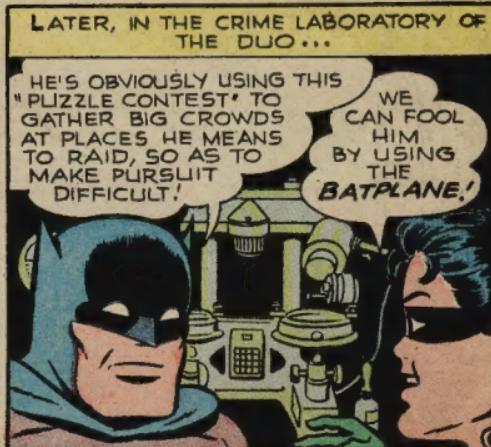
②  
IN THE THEATER OFFICE BESIDE THE HUGE MOVIE SCREEN  
\*\*\*

I  
THOUGHT  
SO!

SO YOU SOLVED MY LITTLE PUZZLE, BATMAN?



SWIFT PURSUIT  
ADDS NEW ACTION  
TO A MOVIE  
THRILLER!



LATER, AS THE GRIM, BLACK BATPLANE CRUISES WATCHFULLY OVER GOTHAM CITY...

I'VE NEVER  
SEEN THAT  
ADVERTISING  
BLIMP OVER  
GOTHAM CITY  
BEFORE.

NEITHER  
HAVE I.

SUDDENLY, THE BLIMP FLASHES A STRANGE "ADVERTISEMENT"!

IT'S THE  
RIDDLE,  
ALL RIGHT!

SWOOP DOWN  
OVER THAT BLIMP  
AND I'LL DROP  
ONTO IT, ROBIN!

THE REBUS I AM  
TOWING TELLS WHERE  
THE SECOND PRIZE IS  
HIDDEN - The Riddler

BUT THE CANNY RIDDLE COUNTERS  
SWIFTLY BY SLASHING THE SIDE OF  
THE BLIMP!

SORRY I CAN'T  
STAY, BATMAN.  
HOWEVER, I'VE LEFT  
YOU ANOTHER  
PUZZLE TO  
SOLVE!



THE BOY WONDER DOES! A GRAPNEL DARTS OUT FROM THE BATPLANE TO HOOK INTO THE BLIMP, AND ...

LOOK, A  
HORSE-REIN,  
A BOW AND  
A CLUB, WHAT  
DOES THE  
RIDDLE'S  
REBUS MEAN?

THE REBUS  
TOWING TELLS WHERE  
THE SECOND PRIZE  
IS HIDDEN!

REIN-BOW-CLUB-  
RAINBOW CLUB!  
THAT'S WHERE THE  
SECOND PRIZE  
IS HIDDEN!

SOON A GREAT CROWD JAMS EVERY ENTRANCE TO THE FAMED SKY-HIGH RAINBOW CLUB!



BUT THE RIDDLER HAS ALREADY LANDED ON THE SKYSCRAPER ROOF, AND NOW—



I WANT TO SEE IF THERE'S A POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF IT!

HE'S CLIMBING UP THAT BIG RAINBOW SIGN!





LET'S DROP IN ON  
THE FOLKS DOWN  
BELOW, BATMAN!

LOOK  
OUT,  
BATMAN!  
HE'S  
TRYING  
TO PULL  
YOU OFF  
WITH HIM!

HE HAD THAT PUZZLE-  
PARACHUTE UNDER HIS  
COSTUME!

MAYBE  
WE CAN  
STILL  
CATCH  
HIM!

BUT  
BY THE  
TIME  
THE DUO  
FIGHTS  
THROUGH  
THE  
CROWDED  
BUILDING  
...

AT LEAST, THIS  
TIME WE KEPT  
HIS ROBBERY  
FROM  
SUCCEEDING!

BUT  
HE  
GOT  
AWAY!

LATER, IN THE BATCAVE...

THE RIDDLER IS STILL  
AT LARGE, BUT BATMAN  
AND ROBIN WILL SURELY  
CATCH HIM SOON!

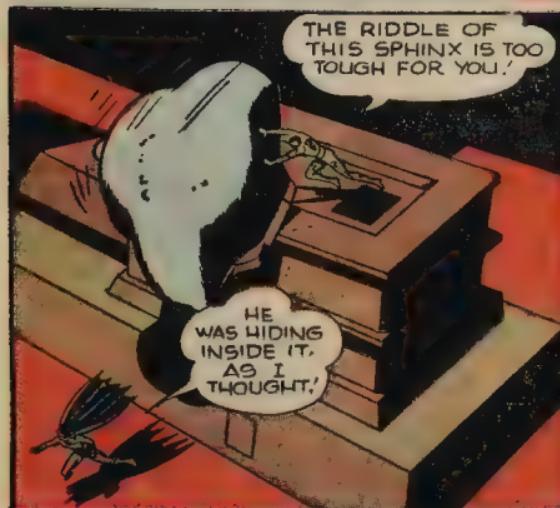
I  
WISH  
I WERE  
AS SURE  
OF IT AS  
HE IS!

SUDDENLY...

BATMAN, LOOK!  
THERE HE IS IN  
THE TELEVISION  
SCREEN!

THIS IS  
THE RIDDLER,  
FOLKS—  
ANNOUNCING  
MY NEXT  
CONTEST-PUZZLE!





IN THE HALL OF MIRRORS, WHICH REPRODUCES THE PUZZLE ROOM OF A FAMOUS EUROPEAN PALACE.

YOU LIKE PUZZLES, BATMAN—  
FIND THE **REAL RIDDLER**!

THERE ARE DOZENS OF  
RIDDLERS, WHICH  
IS THE **REAL**  
ONE—AND WHICH  
ARE THE  
IMAGES?

OUCH, THIS  
WAS ONLY  
AN  
IMAGE!

HA, HA—CAN'T YOU  
SOLVE A SIMPLE  
PUZZLE LIKE THIS?

AND THIS  
ONE,  
TOO!

JUST ANOTHER  
IMAGE!

THERE'S ONE  
DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN A MIRROR  
IMAGE AND REALITY:  
THE IMAGE IS  
ALWAYS  
REVERSED!

AND SINCE YOU'RE  
THE ONLY RIDDLER  
HERE WHO ISN'T  
REVERSE, YOU'RE  
THE REAL  
ONE!

YOU  
USED A  
TRICK TO  
SOLVE MY PUZZLE!  
IT ISN'T  
FAIR!

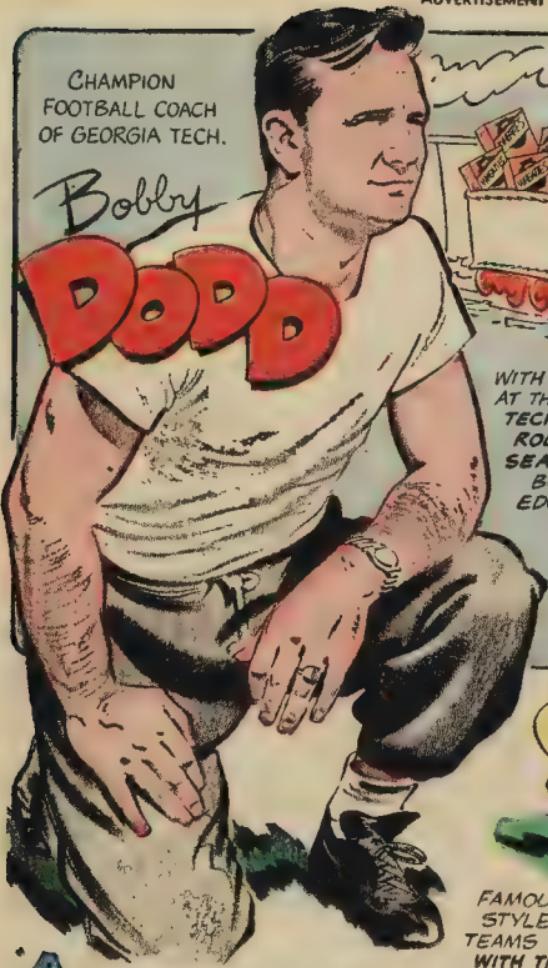
LATER...

AND HERE'S A  
PUZZLE FOR  
YOU,  
RIDDLER!

THE  
GORDIAN  
KNOT—  
JUST TRY  
TO UNTIE  
IT!

CHAMPION  
FOOTBALL COACH  
OF GEORGIA TECH.

Bobby  
**Dodd**



WITH COACH DODD  
AT THE THROTTLE GEORGIA  
TECH'S ENGINEERS STEAM-  
ROLLED TO 9 VICTORIES LAST  
SEASON. IN ORANGE BOWL GAME,  
BOBBY'S "RAMBLIN' WRECK"  
EDGED KANSAS U. 20-14 IN  
BREATH-TAKING FINISH.



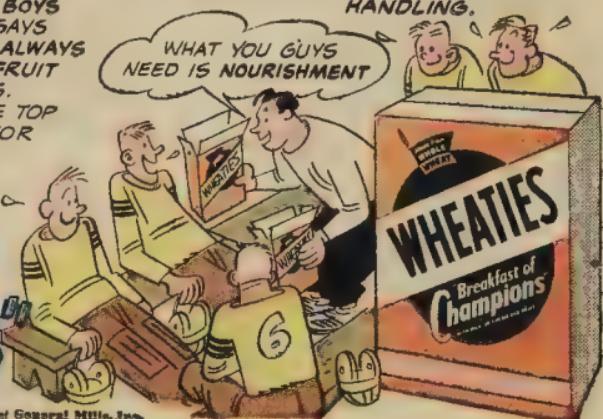
FAMOUS FOR THEIR "RAZZLE-DAZZLE"  
STYLE OF PLAY, DODD'S GEORGIA TECH  
TEAMS OFTEN DUMBFOUNDED OPPONENTS  
WITH TRICKY SLEIGHT-OF-HAND BALL  
HANDLING.

A COACH LIKES TO SEE HIS BOYS  
EAT GOOD NOURISHING FOOD," SAYS  
BOBBY DODD. "THAT'S WHY I'M ALWAYS  
SLAD TO RECOMMEND MILK, FRUIT  
AND WHEATIES TO MY TEAMS.  
WHEATIES HAVE BEEN AT THE TOP  
OF MY OWN TRAINING DIET FOR  
A GOOD MANY YEARS  
— I LOVE 'EM."

**WHEATIES**  
**BREAKFAST**  
OF  
**CHAMPIONS**

WITH MILK AND FRUIT

Wheaties and Breakfast of Champions are registered trade marks of General Mills, Inc.



**WHEATIES**  
Breakfast of  
Champions



WHEN SLICK CITY CROOKS APPLY HOE AND SHOVEL TO THE GOOD EARTH, YOU CAN BET THERE'S GOING TO BE DIRTY WORK AT THE CROSSROADS! THAT IS, UNTIL DETECTIVES SLAM BRADLEY AND SHORTY MORGAN GO IN FOR SOME HEFTY SPADE-WORK TO TURN UP A TOUGH NEST OF RATS WHO PLAY...

**'THE FARMER IN THE TILL!'**

DRIVEN FROM CITY HAUNTS BY HIGH REWARDS FOR THEIR CAPTURE, MUGS MULLIGAN AND HIS GANG LOOK FOR RURAL LOOT...

HEY, MUGS, LOOK AT DA HAYSEEDS AT DA BANK!

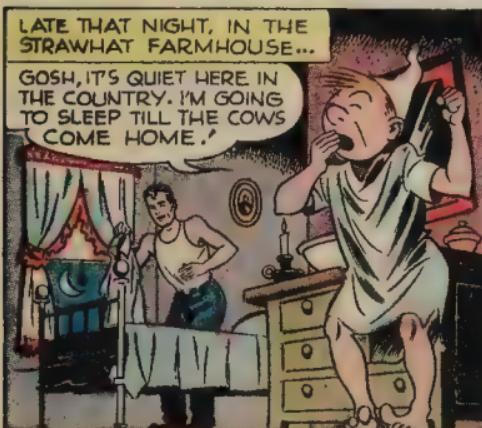
DAT GIVES ME A HOT IDEA FOR SOME COLD CASH!

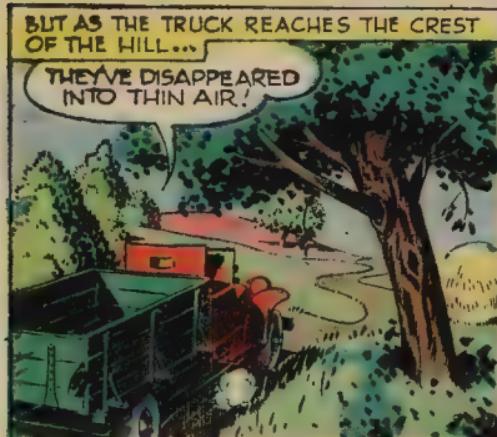
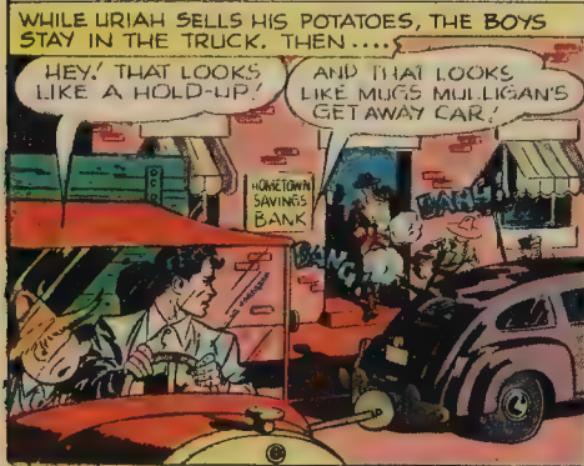
THE FOLLOWING DAY, DRESSED AS HARD-WORKING FARMERS...

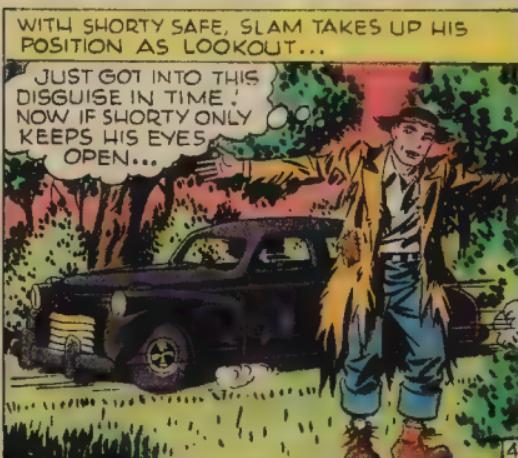
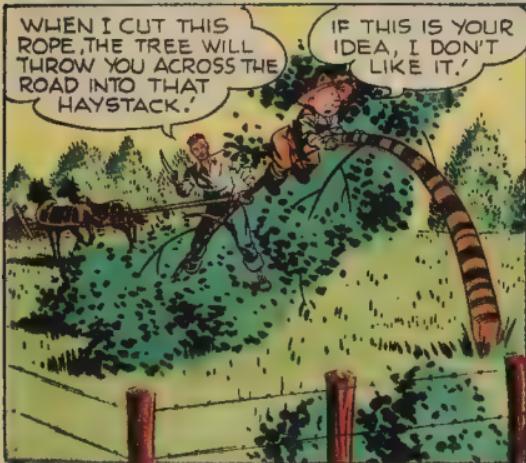
OKAY, BOYS, LET'S GO IN!

AN' HARVEST DE CASH-CROP WID OUR GUNS DISGUISED AS TOOLS!





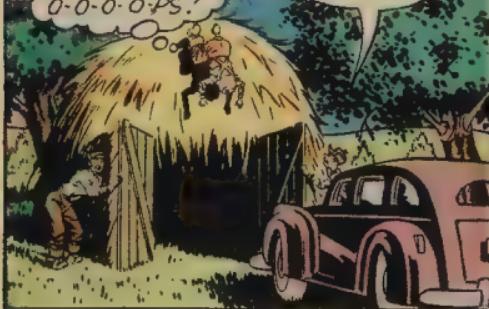




BUT SHORTY IS SO EXCITED BY WHAT HE SEES THAT HE LOSES HIS BALANCE AND...

SO THAT'S HOW THEY MADE THE CAR DISAPPEAR!  
O-O-O-O-P-S!

HEY! HOW'D HE GET THERE?



AS SLAM COMES TO THE RESCUE...

WHAT COUNTS IS WHERE I'M GOING, RAT!



LOOK OUT, SHORTY! CROOKS AREN'T THE ONLY DANGER ON THIS FARM...

PARDON ME, BUT THERE'S SOME DUST ON YOUR CHIN!

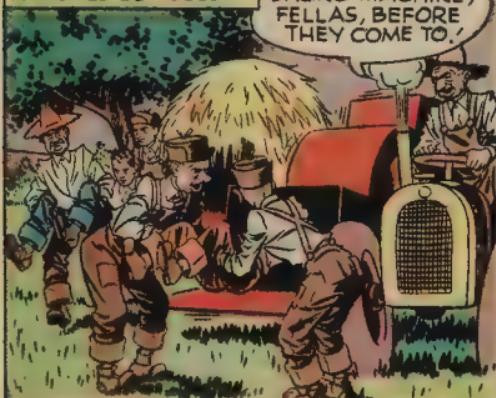


AND AS THE DANGER CONNECTS WITH SHORTY...



AND WHILE THE BOYS ARE STILL OUT COLD...

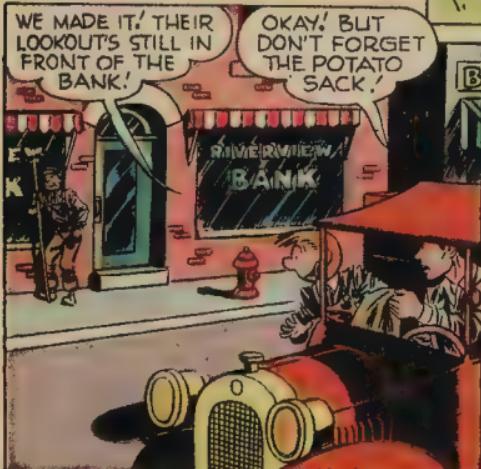
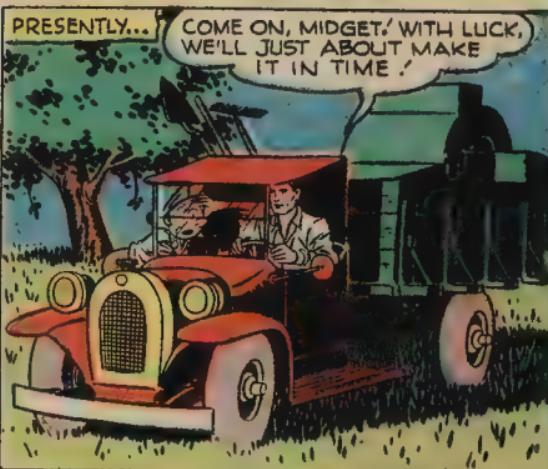
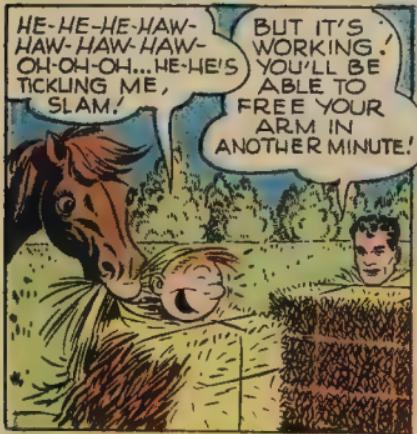
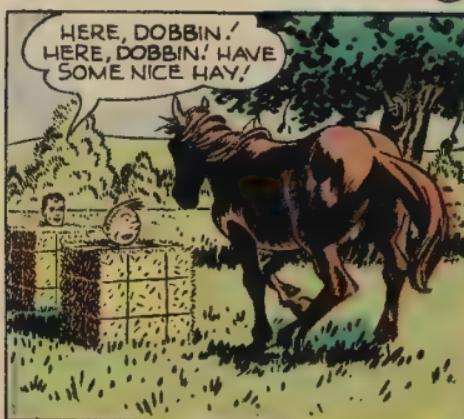
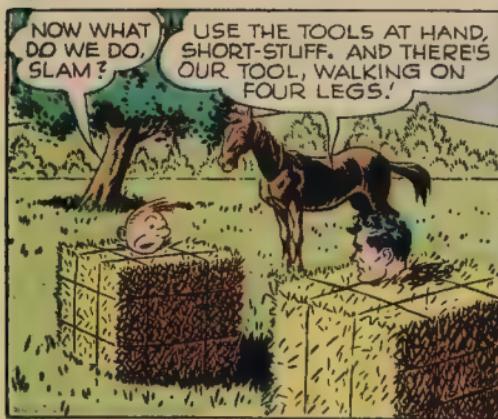
TOSS 'EM IN THE BALING MACHINE, FELLAS, BEFORE THEY COME TO!

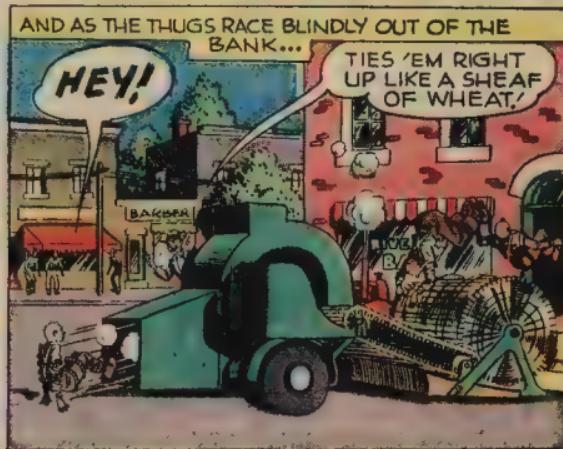
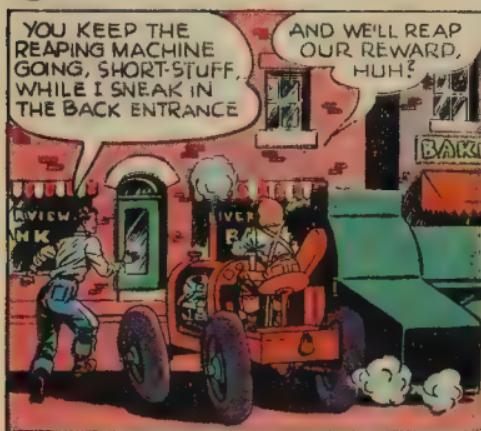


SAY, MUGGSY, DAT'S A SLICK WAY A' TYING 'EM UP. DEN WE'LL GET RID OF 'EM LATER, HUH?

DAT'S DE IDEA! BUT WE GOTTA HURRY NOW IF WE'RE STICKING UP DAT RIVERVIEW BANK BEFORE CLOSING TIME!







THAT'S A MIGHTY FINE HAUL OF LIVESTOCK YOU'VE MADE THERE, BOYS!



GOLLY, SLAM! IF WE WANTA VACATION, WE'D BETTER GO BACK TO THE CITY!

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

THE END

# FELLOWS! GIRLS! Get Captain Tootsie's MYSTIFYING, BAFFLING "BAG OF MAGIC TRICKS"

Over \$1.00 Retail Value!  
Only **25¢** with any wrapper from  
Tootsie Roll, Tootsie Pop,  
Tootsie Coconut Fudge

- DISAPPEARING COIN!
- MAGIC VANISHER!
- SPRING-AND-RING TRICK!

**PLUS**

## 50 MAGIC SECRETS BY BLACKSTONE

The World's Greatest Magician! Coin tricks! Card tricks! Match tricks! Illustrated! With easy directions by the master magician himself in Blackstone's own amazing book—"My Secrets of Magic".



## RUSH COUPON TODAY!

### CAPTAIN TOOTSIE

Box 203, New York 8, N. Y.

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ "Bags of Magic Tricks". For each one I enclose 25¢ (in coin) and a Tootsie wrapper from either Tootsie Roll, Tootsie Coconut Fudge, or Tootsie Pop.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print Name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Offer expires January 31, 1949

Void if taxed, prohibited, or otherwise restricted by state or municipal laws. Offer good only in United States.

# BOYS - IT'S FREE!

Exciting NEW BOOK about

## ATOMIC ENERGY and



MARVEL  
**CHEMCRAFT**



NOW! with SAFE ATOMIC ENERGY EXPERIMENTS!

### "THE WONDERS OF CHEMISTRY"

Don't miss it, fellows! Introduces you to the miracles of Atomic Energy ..and lets you in on secrets of the mysterious Atomic World. Also shows you how to amaze friends and family with Chemcraft Chemical Magic. Describes many fascinating home experiments. Tells about the fun, thrills, adventure and big future opportunities awaiting boys who know chemistry. Send for your FREE copy of "The Wonders of Chemistry" now! Send penny postal or letter to address shown below. Send today!

THE ADVERTISING COUNCIL PRESENTS THE 30TH ANNUAL HAGELSTOWN, MD.

ADVERTISEMENT

"Champ wants to see you wearing a  
**GENE AUTRY SWEATSHIRT**  
... and so do I!"

"All over the country, wherever Champ and I go, we see boys and girls wearing our sweatshirts. No wonder they're so popular! There's a big picture of Champ and me on the front in red, and the sweatshirts themselves come in various colors like blue, white, yellow and tan.

"They're really cozy, too. Perfect for school. They always look nifty and wear a long, long time, because they're made from the finest cotton fabrics. Mom will be especially happy because they wash so easily. You can tell her my sweatshirts are the best on the market!

"You can buy them in the better chain stores and department stores."

**J. T. FLAGG KNITTING CO., INC.**

Makers of High grade Knit Goods

Mills: Florence, Alabama

New York Office 93 Worth Street

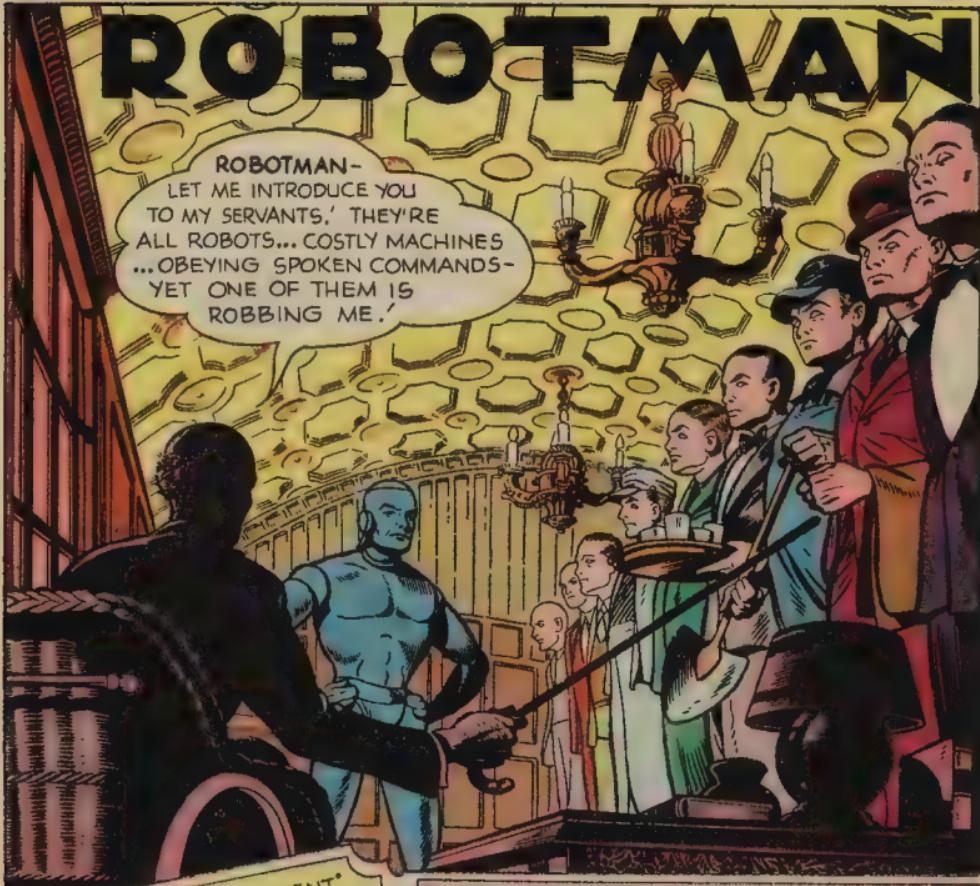
NATIONALLY  
ADVERTISED  
IN LADIES' HOME  
JOURNAL AND  
PARENTS'  
MAGAZINE

**\$1.25**  
EACH

# ROBOTMAN

ROBOTMAN-

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU  
TO MY SERVANTS. THEY'RE  
ALL ROBOTS... COSTLY MACHINES  
...OBEYING SPOKEN COMMANDS-  
YET ONE OF THEM IS  
ROBBING ME!



WILL TIRELESS, EFFICIENT  
ROBOTS BE THE FUTURE  
SERVANTS OF MANKIND? WILL  
THEY BE MORE TRUSTWORTHY  
THAN HUMANS? SO THINKS AN  
ECCENTRIC MILLIONAIRE, WHO  
STAFFS HIS MANSION WITH  
MECHANICAL HELP! BUT WHEN  
ONE ROBOT TURNS CROOK,  
IT BECOMES THE JOB OF  
FAMED ROBOTMAN  
TO CATCH...

PAUL DENNIS, ALIAS ROBOTMAN, STROLLS  
OUTSIDE TOWN WHEN SUDDENLY...



The  
**ROBOT BANDIT!**

CONCEALED BY A TREE, PAUL DENNIS SWIFTLY REMOVES HIS PLASTIC DISGUISE, REVEALING HIS TRUE FORM OF ROBOTMAN!



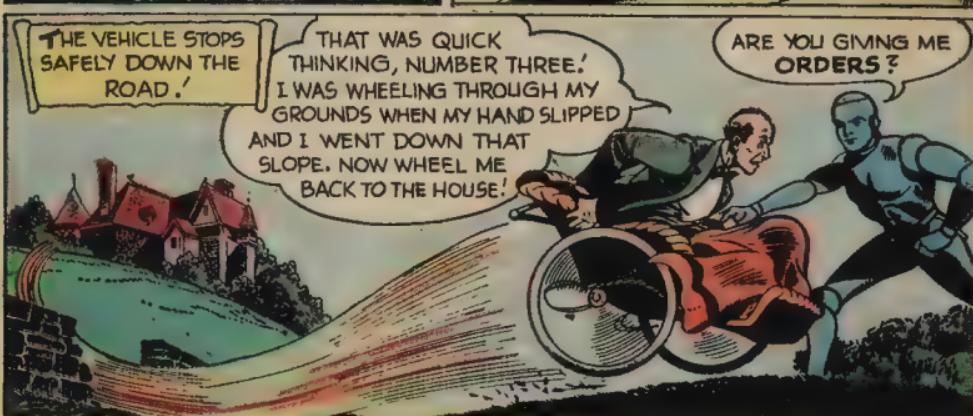
THE MAN OF METAL USES HIS SPEED AND POWER TO PREVENT DISASTER!



THE VEHICLE STOPS SAFELY DOWN THE ROAD!

THAT WAS QUICK THINKING, NUMBER THREE! I WAS WHEELING THROUGH MY GROUNDS WHEN MY HAND SLIPPED AND I WENT DOWN THAT SLOPE. NOW WHEEL ME BACK TO THE HOUSE!

ARE YOU GIVING ME ORDERS?

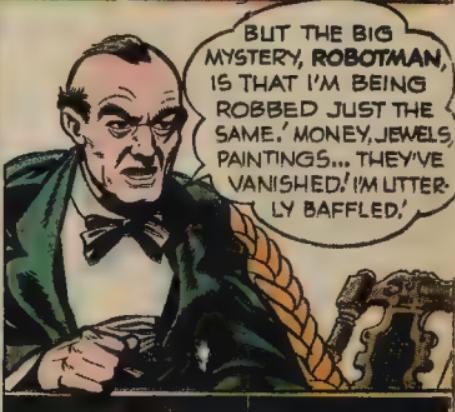


YES, OF COURSE, YOU TIN OX! HOW DARE YOU TALK BACK TO ME? AREN'T YOU NUMBER THREE, ONE OF MY SERVANTS?

NUMBER THREE? SERVANT? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, SIR! I'M ROBOTMAN!

EH? YOU MEAN THE ROBOTMAN? SORRY, MY MISTAKE! PLEASE WHEEL ME TO THE HOUSE AND I'LL EXPLAIN!







IT SEEMS RIDICULOUS! A ROBOT WOULDN'T NEED MONEY. THESE ARE JUST CLEVER MACHINES BUILT IN HUMAN SHAPE. THEY HAVE NO HUMAN EMOTIONS SUCH AS LOVE, ANGER, OR GREED! THERE ARE TWO POSSIBLE ANSWERS...

THAT NIGHT...

LLOYD TOLD ME THE ROBOTS ALL HAVE AUTOMATIC CUT-OFFS WHICH MAKE THEM INERT DURING DARKNESS THROUGH THE NIGHT. IF ANY ROBOT IS MOVING IN THIS HOUSE...

HERE COMES ONE... THE VALET. AND TRYING TO SNEAK OFF WITH A PRICELESS OLD PAINTING!

SO YOU'RE THE CULPRIT!

OOF!

I THOUGHT SO! A MAN WEARING A ROBOT DISGUISE! AND YOU WERE STEALING THE PAINTINGS!

NO. PLEASE LET ME EXPLAIN!

THE INVALID MILLIONAIRE ARRIVES, AWAKENED BY THE NOISE.

I WAS ONLY TRYING TO HIDE IT IN A SAFE PLACE... A LIKELY STORY! IT'S OLD SMITHERS, SO IT WOULDN'T BE STOLEN... MY ONE-TIME LIKE OTHER THINGS! PLEASE VALET... SO YOU SIR... I'M INNOCENT! ARE ROBBING ME! BECAUSE I FIRED YOU!



THE TREMBLING OLD SERVANT TELLS A TOUCHING STORY!

STOP BLUBBERING,  
SMITHERS! GOODBYE!

I HAD BEEN  
MR. LLOYD'S VALET  
FOR 30 YEARS. IT  
BROKE MY HEART  
WHEN HE DISMISSED ME.  
SO I MASQUERADED  
AS A ROBOT IN  
ORDER TO BE NEAR  
HIM AND SERVE HIM!

BAH!  
THAT SOB STORY  
WON'T WORK,  
SMITHERS! I'LL  
HAVE YOU  
ARRESTED  
AND...

WAIT!  
A NOISE  
UPSTAIRS!



THE ROBOT BUTLER...  
THE TRUE THIEF! BUT HE'S  
NO HUMAN BEING UNDER-  
NEATH, OR THIS BLOW WOULD  
HAVE SENT HIM DOWN!  
HE'S A REAL  
ROBOT!

AND THERE NOW OCCURS A HOUSE-SHAKING  
BATTLE BETWEEN THE TWO MIGHTY METAL MEN!



BUT EXERTING EVERY OUNCE  
OF HIS TREMENDOUS STRENGTH,  
ROBOTMAN BUTTS HIS  
POWERFUL ADVERSARY!





# BOYS!

Look at all the Spectacular Buzz-With-Action Models you can build with

# ERECTOR®

Developed at the GILBERT HALL OF SCIENCE

ERECTOR HAS GIRDERS OF STEEL—TO BUILD LIKE REAL!



LOOK! HE'S MADE OF METAL! HE HAS ELECTRIC EYES! HE WALKS BY REMOTE CONTROL! HE'S THE MYSTERIOUS ERECTOR WALKING GIANT!



No. 12½ Erector has 3 powerful motors, over 35 pounds of parts. Builds mysterious walking giant, remote control tractors and crawlers, electromatic cranes and hundreds of other realistic action models. Greatest Erector of all time—\$50.00\*

THIS GIANT FERRIS WHEEL HAS ELECTRIC LIGHTS...OPERATES IN BOTH DIRECTIONS AT HIGH OR LOW SPEED!



Built with No. 8½ Erector—the All-Electric Set. Most complete engineering outfit Dad can buy for \$19.95\*

Fun with Erector starts the moment you open the big box and start to assemble girders, wheels, gears and other parts. Erector parts have equi-distant holes so that you just count the holes to put them together. No other construction set builds the square girder with interlocking edges and contains so many parts. Curved, straight and giant steel girders. Metal base plates. Real engineering bolts and nuts. 5 kinds of gears. Electric engine. Electro-magnets. Electric lights. Engineer's shack. Boiler shells. Giant flywheel parts. Automobile wheels. See the new Erectors wherever toys are sold.

\*Dollar and cent, prices slightly higher.

THIS EXCITING BOOK WILL HOLD YOU SPELBOUND!!



Cope, 1948,

Nat'l Com.

Pub. Inc.

GOSH...THAT ERECTOR REVERSING ELECTRIC ENGINE HAS REAL POWER! IT MAKES MODELS BUZZ WITH ACTION!



AIRPLANE RIDE BUILT WITH SENSATIONAL NO. 6½ ERECTOR. Loads of fun at the sensational low price of \$10.00\*

**FREE! SUPERMAN!**  
shows you the wonders of the Gilbert Hall of Science

What did Superman see with his x-ray vision at the Gilbert Hall of Science? This 32-page book—crammed with color pictures—tells you all. Mail coupon or post card today.

Gilbert Hall of Science  
407 Erector Square, New Haven, Conn.  
Rush free book "With Superman at the Gilbert Hall of Science."

Name.....

Street.....

City..... State.....

(This offer good only in U. S. A.)

# JERRY

## THE JITTERBUG

HARRY ASOTINOS

PETE ASKED  
ME TO MEET  
HIM DOWNTOWN!

HE INSISTED I GET HERE  
AT EIGHT O'CLOCK - NOT A  
MINUTE EARLIER OR LATER!  
WELL, I'M HERE!

ONE  
HOUR  
LATER...

BRR!  
IT'S COLD!  
WHERE IS  
THAT GUY?

H'LO, JERRY,  
ARE YOUR TOES  
FROZEN  
YET?

I'LL  
SAY  
THEY ARE!

GOOD! I'M WRITING A COMPOSITION  
FOR SCHOOL ON THE WEATHER, AND  
I WANTED TO KNOW IF A MAN'S  
TOES FREEZE IN AN HOUR!

ADVERTISEMENT

MOST EXCITING BOOT YOU EVER SAW!



THE HOOD ROCKET BOOT  
MADE SPECIALLY FOR BOYS!



BRAND NEW! A TOUGH  
AND STURDY OVER-THE-  
SHOE RUBBER BOOT TO  
BAT AROUND IN SLEET  
AND SLUSH! ALL THE  
GANG WILL WANT 'EM!

MADE BY THE MAKERS OF "P.E." CANVAS SHOES



# WHEN YOU CLOSE YOUR MIND

## WHY do we sleep?

Before you call that a silly question, remember that scientists have been trying to learn the answer for years.

Shakespeare talked of "sleep that knits the raveled sleeve of care." That's a poetic way of saying that when we sleep, we rest, and rebuild what we've worn out. But there are other ways of resting too.

We can rest our muscles without going to sleep. If you get tired chopping a tree, or playing basketball, you can get back your strength by resting for a few minutes. No sleep is needed for that. If you think that your stomach needs a rest you can eat lighter food, or eat less. Your stomach too can rest when you're awake.

Your heart doesn't work so hard when you're asleep, but it does keep working. So do your lungs, and many other parts of your body.

The one part of your body that can't get a good rest without sleep is your brain.

Now even your brain doesn't rest completely when you sleep. You may dream, or be partly aware of what's going on around you. If the blanket falls off and you feel cold, your brain will send orders to cover yourself. But it doesn't work at full strength. Most of it rests, and gets a chance to recover from all the thinking it's done during the day.

A baby's brain is small, and simpler than a grown person's. Besides, everything is new to a newborn baby, so its brain tires quickly,

and the baby spends most of its time sleeping. As the brain develops, however, the baby needs less sleep.

Sleep has other purposes besides resting the brain. It's usually true that when we sleep, our muscles are relaxed and rest better. But you can go to sleep in a very awkward position—some people sleep sitting up in subways or trains, others even standing. When you wake up, you may have a crick in your neck, or other aching muscles because of the position in which you slept. But the main purpose of the sleep is accomplished if your mind has had a rest.

So to go to sleep is really to close your mind. And when we talk of people who *always* have closed minds, we mean that they're practically asleep even when they're awake, which is a pretty bad state to be in.

## LONG SLEEPERS

People go to sleep chiefly to rest their brains. But many animals, and plants as well, sleep for other reasons.

Some animals *hibernate*. That is, they sleep all through the winter. They don't do this because their brains are tired, but because there's no food around. If they stayed awake, they'd have to eat often or starve. *Hibernation* is a special kind of sleep that lets them get by with less food.

Now when our minds are closed, as in ordinary sleep, we are in a way only half alive. Our hearts beat more slowly, we breathe more

slowly, our body temperature falls about a degree because we are using less energy, and we need less food.

When an animal hibernates, it is practically one-tenth, or one-twentieth alive. Its body temperature may fall many degrees, its heart beat may be so slow we can hardly notice it, and it may seem to stop breathing.

There is a small animal called a dormouse, something like a mouse, that breathes many times a minute when awake. But when it's hibernating, it breathes only once every four or five minutes!

Because a hibernating animal is living so slowly, it can get by with very little food. It can eat its last meal of the year in the fall, sleep through the winter, and wake up for breakfast in spring.

Other animals hibernate for different reasons. In hot dry regions, some frogs, for instance, bury themselves in the mud and sleep through the dry spell because water is hard to get.

Plants also go to sleep in the fall. During winter, a broad-leaved tree looks dead. The ground may be frozen and hard, the sunlight is weak, and the tree can't get enough nourishment to grow. So it goes to sleep, to wake up in spring when conditions are better.

Even microbes have a way of sleeping. When there's not enough food or water, some of them turn into spores. As spores, they have a tough skin and seem to give no sign of life. They are not easily killed by boiling water, or by freezing, and they can last for years without any change.

But put them in plenty of water, let them have food—and the spores awake, turning into ordinary microbes again.

There are still other reasons for sleeping. On a cold night, snakes and wasps, for instance, can neither bite nor sting. That's because they are cold-blooded animals, and their body temperature is about the same as the temperature of the air around them. But when they cool off they use up energy more slowly, they become half, or a quarter, or a tenth alive

—in other words, they are so chilled that they are asleep.

## HOW MUCH SLEEP DO PEOPLE NEED?

Growing children need plenty of sleep—nine or ten hours a day or even more, depending on the age. However, some need more sleep than others, and it's hard to give a rule that holds for everybody. The one good rule is to give every child a chance to get as much sleep as he or she needs.

If you go to sleep too late, and have to be awakened to go to school or work, you don't get that chance. So the best thing is to go to sleep early, and sleep until you wake up naturally.

Grown people usually think they need eight hours of sleep a day. But some get by on a lot less, and others need more. Prizefighters in training may sleep nine or ten hours a day.

When you try to get by on not enough sleep, you work less efficiently. You waste energy, you make mistakes, you slow down, and you don't think as well. After all, that's natural when you consider how important the brain is and in how many ways things can go wrong if it isn't well rested.

Of course, some people can go to sleep even when they haven't tired their brains, simply because they're bored. A long speech or a dull movie puts them to sleep in a few minutes.

Scientists have experimented with animals by covering their eyes, putting muzzles on their ears, and not letting them move. The animal gets so bored that it falls asleep!

So people who feel that their lives are uninteresting sometimes have a tendency to sleep too much. That's almost as bad as not sleeping enough. The brain needs exercise as well as rest, and it can get the right amount only when a person is awake and interested in what's going on about him.

In order to be properly awake, we need enough sleep—but not too much. Remember that too much of a good thing can be bad for you!

—William Morrison

# GIVEN PREMIUMS or CASH COMMISSION GIVEN

BE FIRST

53rd YEAR



**GIRLS -  
LADIES -**

**We Trust  
You**

**- BOYS  
- MEN**

WE ARE RELIABLE

SEND NAME &amp; ADDRESS ON COUPON — NO MONEY NOW

1000 Shot Repeater Daisy Air Rifles (with tube of shot). Genuine .22 caliber Rifles. Lovable, fully dressed Dolls over 15 inches in height. Footballs. Watches (sent postage paid). Boys-Girls latest model Bicycles (sent express charges collect). Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful art pic-

tures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE used for chaps and mild burns, easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25 cents a box (with art picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with order postage paid by us. Write or mail coupon today for starting order. We are reliable. Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. A-115, Tyrone, Pa.



ACT NOW

# GIVEN PREMIUMS or Cash Commission

ACT NOW

BOY'S  
GIRL'SLADIES  
MEN

Pocket Watches, Wrist Watches, Alarm Clocks sent postage paid. Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with order postage paid by us to start. Our 53rd year Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. B-115, Tyrone, Pa.

# PREMIUMS or CASH GIVEN

NO MONEY  
NOWWE  
TRUST  
YOUBOYS  
GIRLS  
MEN  
LADIES

OTHER PREMIUMS OR CASH COMMISSION now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with order postage paid by us to start. Mail coupon today for starting order. We are reliable. Our 53rd successful year. Be first. Act NOW!

Superheterodyne Radios, Candid Cameras, School Boxes, Blankets, Aluminum ware (sent postage paid). Radio Steel Wagons, body size 34 x 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Wheels 10 double disc — sent express charges collect.

Wilson Chemical Co.,  
Dept. F-115, Tyrone, Pa.

# GIVEN

Premiums  
or Cash  
Commission

Electric Record Players, Excel Movie Projectors with roll of film (sent postage paid). Other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE

sent at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with order postage paid by us to start. Write or mail coupon today. Our 53rd year. Act now! Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. C-115, Tyrone, Pa.

# GIVEN

PREMIUMS  
or CASH  
Commission

Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches, Rifles, Bullets, (sent postage paid). Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE and remit amount per catalog sent with starting order postage paid by us. Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. D-115, Tyrone, Pa.

# MAIL COUPON TODAY

Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. NO-115, Tyrone, Pa. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Gentlemen — Please send me on trial 12 colorful art pictures with 12 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25¢ a box (with picture). I will remit amount within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with my order postage paid to start.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

St. \_\_\_\_\_ RD. \_\_\_\_\_ Box. \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ State. \_\_\_\_\_

Print LAST  
Name Here

Paste on a postal card or mail in an envelope NOW

# Editorial Advisory Board

DR. LAURETTA BENDER

Associate Professor of Psychiatry  
School of Medicine, New York University

JOSETTE FRANK

Consultant on Children's Reading,  
Child Study Association of America

DR. C. BOWIE MILLICAN

Department of English Literature  
New York University

Dr. W. W. D. SONES

Professor of Education and  
Director of Curriculum Study,  
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. S. HARCOURT PEPPARD

Acting Director, Bureau of Child Guidance  
Board of Education, City of New York



The following magazines all bear this trademark as your guarantee of the best in comic reading:

ACTION COMICS  
A DATE WITH JUDY  
ADVENTURE COMICS  
ALL-AMERICAN WESTERN  
ALL-STAR COMICS  
ANIMAL ANTICS  
BATMAN  
BOY COMMANDOS  
BUZZY  
COMIC CAVALCADE  
DALE EVANS COMICS  
DETECTIVE COMICS  
FLASH COMICS  
FUNNY FOLKS  
FUNNY STUFF

GANG BUSTERS  
GREEN LANTERN  
LEADING COMICS  
LEAVE IT TO BINKY  
MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
MUTT & JEFF  
REAL FACT COMICS  
REAL SCREEN COMICS  
SCRIBBLY  
SENSATION COMICS  
STAR SPANGLED COMICS  
SUPERMAN  
WESTERN COMICS  
WONDER WOMAN  
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

ADVERTISEMENT

## ADVENTURES OF NIP & TUCK

SAVED BY  
TRADE & MARK



The

# BOY COMMANDOS

## THE MYSTERY OF SECRET X

YOU ARE  
POWERLESS  
TO STOP ME  
CARTER! IN MY  
HAND I HOLD  
SECRET X! WITH  
IT, I CAN CONTROL  
A NATION!

Nobody knows what  
of Secret X mystery  
knows what Secret X  
can do! But that  
will be the next  
assignment of the  
BOY COMMANDOS--  
to find out!

Captain  
Rip Carter



ON A DRIZZLY APRIL MORNING, THE PAPERS HIT THE STANDS WITH STARTLING HEADLINES...



MEBBE DIS SECRET X IS A LOT O' HOOEY, RIP! NO, BROOKLYN POLICE INTELLIGENCE HAS KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME THAT VANNERS WAS WORKING ON A SECRET INVENTION! JUST WHAT THE EXPERIMENT IS--OR WAS--NOBODY KNOWS. WE CALL IT SECRET X!

IN THE ENSUING MONTHS, PROF. VANNERS (312853) BECOMES THE TALK OF THE PRISON GRAPEVINE...



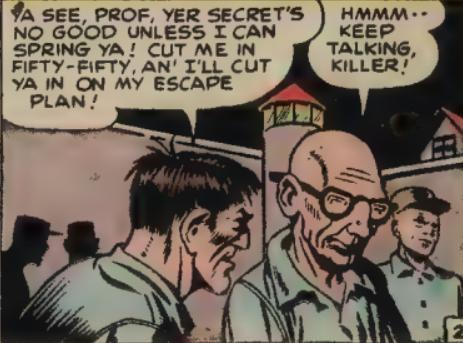
I KNOW A GUY IN CHI WHO'LL GIVE A MILLION FOR THE X SECRET! I HEAR IT'S A DEATH RAY O'SOME SORT!



VANNERS' OWN CELL MATE ATTEMPTS A LEGENDARY TRICK FOR PRYING THE SECRET FROM ITS MASTER-- THAT OF HOLDING A SLEEPING MAN'S HAND IN WATER, TO MAKE HIM TALK...



FINALLY, KILLER ARNIE BENET MAKES HIS BID FOR THE SECRET. HE APPROACHES THE PROFESSOR IN THE PRISON YARD...



MONDAY NIGHT. WHEN THE PRISON TRUCKS MOVE THEM METAL HIGHWAY SIGNS OUT TO THE TRACKS--WE'RE GONNA BZZZZZ  
BZZZZZZ

IT'S A DEAL, KILLER! YOU GET ME OUT OF STIR--AND I'LL CUT YOU IN ON MY SECRET--

ON SATURDAY, TWO DAYS BEFORE THE PLANNED JAILBREAK, KILLER ARNIE APPROACHES A RIVAL GANGLEADER, BIG JACK BELLAIRE...

HAW! YOU WANTIN' ME ON A BREAK! MUST BE A GAG, ARNIE!

IT WOULD BE IF I DIDN'T NEED YA, JACK--BUT LISEN ...



ON MONDAY YOUR BOYS WILL BE ON THE TRUCK DETAIL! I'VE BRIED A GUARD TO LEAVE THE FRONT GATE UNLOCKED--AN' TO SAY HE FORGOT TO CLOSE IT! YOUR BOYS WILL CRASH THE GATES WITH THE TRUCKS--AN' WE FOLLOW...

FOR ONCE WE USE OUR BRAINS TOGETHER, ARNIE! I'M FOR IT! SEE YA MONDAY!



ON MONDAY, AT 8:30 P.M., JACK BELLAIRE'S BOYS FINISH LOADING THE SIGNS AT THE PRISON FACTORY. THEN ...

REMEMBER, I'LL BE DRIVIN'! SOON'S WE HIT THE YARD, I'LL SWING LEFT AN' DRIVE SMACK AT THE GATE--WHICH WILL BE UNLOCKED! WE GOT HEATERS HIDDEN INSIDE! USE 'EM IF YA HAFTA!

OKAY, JACK.



MEANWHILE, AS VANNERS FINISHES HIS WORK IN THE PRISON LAB...

WE'RE READY! THE TRUCKS ARE MOVING!

GREAT! WE TIMED DIS DEAL WITH THE 8:30 CHECK-UP! BY THE TIME DEY MISS US--WE'LL BE OVER THE WALL! AN' JACK'LL BE A DEAD DUCK! HAW, HAW!



THEN AS THE TRUCK APPROACHES THE RAIL LOADING PLATFORM, IT SWINGS SHARPLY LEFT AND HEADS FOR THE GATE ....

HERE GOES--FULL SPEED AHEAD!

SOUND THE ALARM! WHAT'S THAT TRUCK DOING?



WITH A MIGHTY IMPACT, THE TRUCK CRASHES INTO THE GATE--ONLY TO STOP COLD!

JACK! JACK!  
WE BEEN  
DOUBLECROSSED!  
DA GATES AIN'T  
OPENED!



THE FOOLS TRIED TO  
CRACK THE GATES!  
LET 'EM HAVE IT!



ARNIE--HE CROSSED US!  
THEM GATES WAS NEVER  
LEFT OPEN! THE DIRTY  
RAT--I'VE BEEN  
HIT HARD



AND MEANWHILE, VIA THE SOUTH WALL, ARNIE'S  
BOYS--WITH THE PROFESSOR--SWING DOWN  
TO A WAITING SEDAN!

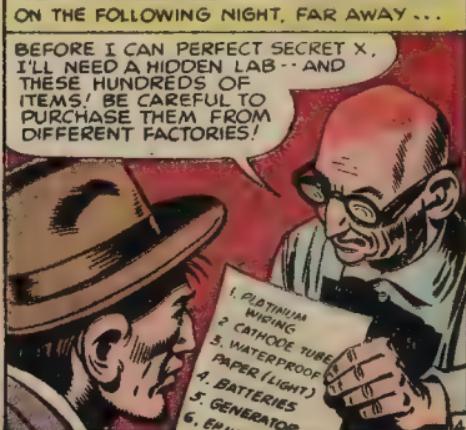
NICE WORK, BUTCH--  
GLAD TO SEE YA!  
DIS WAY, PROFESSOR!

A MARVELOUS  
SCHEME--SACRIFICING  
JACK AS A HUMAN  
DECoy!



ON THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, FAR AWAY...

BEFORE I CAN PERFECT SECRET X,  
I'LL NEED A HIDDEN LAB--AND  
THESE HUNDREDS OF  
ITEMS! BE CAREFUL TO  
PURCHASE THEM FROM  
DIFFERENT FACTORIES!



FOUR HOURS AFTER THE ESCAPE, RIP AND THE COMMANDOS APPEAR AT THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...

IT WAS A CLEVER ESCAPE, CARTER! ARNIE BENET USED BELLAIRE AS A DECOY TO DRAW THE GUNFIRE AWAY FROM HIM WHILE HE WENT OVER THE SOUTH WALL!

AND HE TOOK VANNERS WITH HIM, EH?

IN A WORD, SECRET X ESCAPED FROM DA PEN! NOW WOT?

WE CAN ONLY WAIT AND SEE, BROOKLYN! WE DON'T KNOW JUST WHAT SECRET X IS... BUT I'M AFRAID WE'LL FIND OUT ONLY TOO SOON!



IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE BOY COMMANDOS FORGET ABOUT SECRET X, AS A SERIES OF STARTLING CRIMES BREAK OUT...



A MOMENT LATER...

BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS CARRYING THIS PAYROLL? ONLY TWO MEN KNEW IT: THE ROSS AND I!

YEAH--AN' A LITTLE BOID TOLD US, PAL! HAND IT OVER!



ON THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, A VAST VAULT IS BURGLARIZED...

ROBBED! COMPLETELY CLEANED OUT! YET ONLY YOU AND I KNEW THE COMBINATION! AND I DIDN'T DO IT!

OF COURSE, HUBERT! AND NEITHER DID I!



DO YOU REALIZE WHAT WE'RE SAYING? ONLY WE TWO KNEW THE SAFE'S COMBINATION--YET NEITHER OF US OPENED IT!

INCREDIBLE! WHO ELSE COULD'VE FOUND OUT! THIS THING IS IMPOSSIBLE!





MEANWHILE, IN A SECLUDED LAB, BUILT IN AN ABANDONED MINE ...

WELL, ARNIE, HOW DO YOU LIKE **SECRET X**? SO FAR, IT'S MADE A MILLION DOLLARS FOR US...AND WE'RE JUST STARTED!

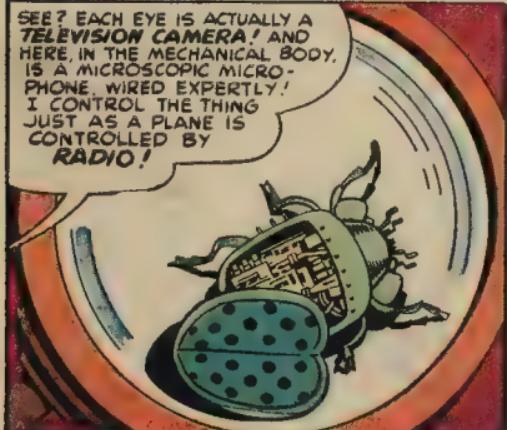
GEE, PROFESSOR! WHO'D EVER TINK SECRET X WAS A LITTLE **BEETLE BUG**!



BUT NO **MERE** BEETLE, ARNIE! AN INGENIOUS ROBOT BEETLE, FULLY EQUIPPED WITH TELEVISION AND RADIO! WATCH IT UNDER THIS MAGNIFYING GLASS!



SEE? EACH EYE IS ACTUALLY A TELEVISION CAMERA! AND HERE, IN THE MECHANICAL BODY, IS A MICROSCOPIC MICROPHONE, WIRED EXPERTLY! I CONTROL THE THING JUST AS A PLANE IS CONTROLLED BY RADIO!



AND NOW - TO SEND MY PET STRAIGHT TO THE POLICE CHIEF'S OFFICE FROM WHERE I RECEIVED MOST OF MY INFORMATION LATELY!



AT THIS VERY MOMENT, RIP CARTER CONFERS SECRETLY WITH THE POLICE CHIEF...

THE ROUTE OF THE FACTORY PAYROLL WILL BE KNOWN ONLY TO YOU AND ME! UH-- MY MEN COMBED THIS OFFICE FOR HIDDEN DICTAPHONES OR CAMERAS! WE'RE ABSOLUTELY ALONE!

THEN THERE'S NO REASON FOR THE SECRET TO GET OUT!



BUT POISED ON A LEAF IN THE FLOWER POT...

THESE RECENT CRIMES SEEM TO BE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IS LEAKING OUT! WELL, THIS IS ONE TIME WE'RE KEEPING IT QUIET-- YOU AND I?

YES, SIR!



AND IN THE UNDERGROUND LAB...

OBSERVE! MY MECHANICAL BEETLE SENDS EVERY DETAIL!

EVEN MY OWN BOYS WON'T KNOW WE'RE GUARDING THE PAYROLL! WE'LL FOLLOW THE ARMORED CAR IN A CAB, RIGHT TO THE FACTORY DOORS!

FINE! I BELIEVE THIS IS ONE TIME WE'LL FOIL THIS GANG!



THAT NEXT NIGHT AN ARMORED CAR WEAVES ITS WAY THROUGH DARKENED STREET...



AND A SHORT DISTANCE BEHIND THEM...

BUT, RIP! CAN'T CHA EVEN TELL US WHY WE'RE FOLLOWIN' DAT ARMORED CAR?

SORRY, BOYS! ONLY THE CHIEF AND I ARE IN ON THIS ONE! AND WE'RE SWEARN TO SECRECY!



AT THE FACTORY, THE ARMORED CAR SWINGS UNDER AN IRON DOOR...

YEAH-- WE PULL IN HERE. THEN THAT CAB BEHIND US FOLLOWS US IN, AN' THEN THE DOOR CLOSES! THAT'S ALL I KNOW!

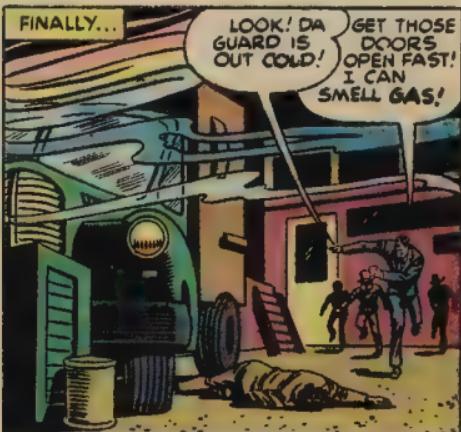
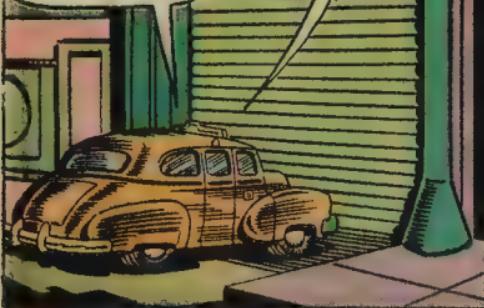


BUT WHEN THE CAB, AS PLANNED, PREPARES TO ENTER...

RIP! DEY DIDN'T WAIT! DA DOOR ALREADY DROPPED!

THEN GET OUT FAST! SOMETHING'S WRONG!

NO USE... IT'S TOO HEAVY!



THEN... BOYS, WE WERE ESCORTING A PAYROLL! THE ROUTE OF THE CAR AND ITS CONTENTS WERE TOP SECRET! YET, THE GUARDS WERE GASSED -- AND THE PAYROLL IS GONE!

AN' ONLY YOU AN' DA POLICE CHIEF KNEW ABOUT IT!



LATER, AT VANNERS' LAB...

YOU MUST'VE LET WORD LEAK OUT, CARTER! SURELY I DIDN'T!

BUT, CHIEF...

HAW/HAW! LOOK AT CARTER! WHAT A SPOT HE'S IN, PROF!





# OH! BOY!

# LIONEL TRAINS

Hear that WHISTLE!—Look at 'em GO! See that Steam Loco puff SMOKE!

This is fun! This is excitement! This is the thrill of a lifetime! Are you one of the boys who is going to build a model LIONEL Train layout this year? You will want all the latest information on the new LIONEL locos,

cars, and accessories. You will want to see the exciting new LIONEL Trains at your dealer's. But, above all, send for the big color catalog and special offer, below: See LIONEL Trains in stereoptican 3-dimension.

*Send for special offer illustrated below:*

- 1 We send you beautiful 36-page Full Color LIONEL Train Catalog.
- 2 Set of 3-Dimensional Views of LIONEL Trains in action.
- 3 Pair of Stereoptican Eyeglasses for viewing scenes.
- 4 Special KIT of 6 cut-out colorful buildings for your Train Layout to create realism.

Entire package only 25¢ to cover mailing and handling costs. Quantities limited, so please order early. It's a wonderful offer, boys!



LIONEL TRAINS, P.O. Box 424  
Madison Square Station  
New York 10, New York

I enclose 25¢. Please send me special offer of Catalog, Stereoptican Views of LIONEL, Stereoptican Eyeglasses, and Kit of 6 building cut-outs.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

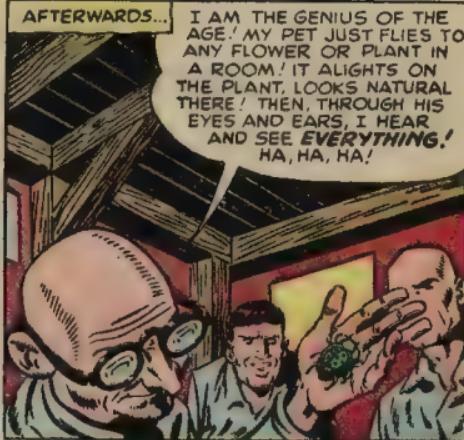
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

SEND FOR IT AT ONCE!

SINCE I DIDN'T TELL ABOUT THE PAYROLL, AND SINCE ONLY YOU AND I KNEW ABOUT IT-- YOU MUST'VE LET IT LEAK! SORRY, CARTER--BUT I CAN'T BRING YOU IN ON ANY MORE JOBS! THAT'S ALL!

HO, HO, HO! WE'LL RUIN CARTER YET! TANKS TO A BEETLE!

I AM THE GENIUS OF THE AGE! MY PET JUST FLIES TO ANY FLOWER OR PLANT IN A ROOM! IT ALIGHTS ON THE PLANT, LOOKS NATURAL THERE! THEN, THROUGH HIS EYES AND EARS, I HEAR AND SEE EVERYTHING! HA, HA, HA!



THAT NIGHT, IT IS A DEJECTED GROUP OF COMMANDOS WHO WALK IDLY ALONG THE DARK, TURBULENT RIVER--WHEN...

EVEN THE POLICE HAVE LOST FAITH IN US--BUT WE'RE NOT QUITTING!

NAW--BUT JUS' WOT ARE WE GONNA DO, RIP?...

RATTA-TAT  
TATTA-TA  
TAT-TAT-TAT



MOMENTS LATER, A GASPING, BULLET-RIDDLED VICTIM IS PULLED ASHORE...

WANTED TO PULL OUT--BUT THEY GOT ME-- LISSEN--**SECRET X** BEHIND CRIMES: COUGH COUGH; SECRET X KNOWS ALL PLANS... MUSEUM O' FUTURE SCIENCE NEXT... UNH... SECRET X... NNNNN...

HE'S GOING FAST!



HE WAS ONE OF THE GANG! HIS DYING CONFESSION SHEDS A NEW LIGHT ON THESE CRIMES! **SECRET X** IS BEHIND THEM! BUT HOW? HOW CAN X GET INTO SECRET CONFERENCES, CLOSED TO THE EYES OF MAN?

WOT'S MORE--WE GOT DA MUSEUM TO TINK ABOUT NEXT!



ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE BOY ADVENTURERS MINGLE WITH THE CROWD AT THE FANTASTIC MUSEUM OF FUTURE SCIENCE...

THAT'S ONE SCIENTIST'S IDEA OF HOW ROBOTS WILL LOOK 500 YEARS FROM NOW! AN ACTUAL, WORKABLE MACHINE!



MEANWHILE, IN A ROOM UNOPEN TO THE PUBLIC, DISTINGUISHED SCIENTISTS DISCUSS SECRETS OF TOMORROW!

GENTLEMEN, THE NEW FORMULA I HAVE JUST REVEALED IS HERE CONCENTRATED IN TABLETS! IF DROPPED INTO A GLASS OF WATER.. THE CHEMICAL REACTION CHANGES THE WATER TO PURE GASOLINE!

AMAZING! SURELY A THING OF THE FUTURE!



OUT AT THE EXHIBITS, WHERE THE BEETLE MAKES ITS WAY...

THAT DYING GANGSTER SAID SOMETHING ABOUT SECRET X BEING HERE! I WONDER WHAT IT CAN BE!

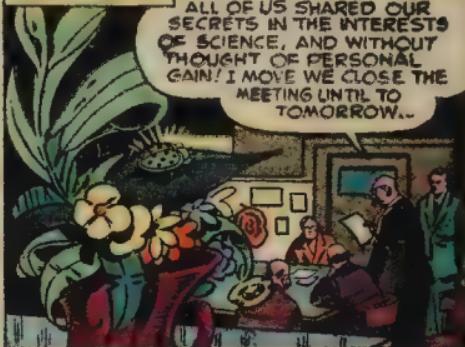


AND IN ANOTHER ROOM... DEFINITELY-- IT'S CONTROLLED YA MEAN DAT TING IS LIKE AN AIRPLANE! A MECHANICAL BUTTERFLY? IT'LL THE PLANTS -- ACTUALLY FLY? ARTIFICIAL ONES-- WHICH ATTRACT IT!



AND ALL THE WHILE, A TINY, CRAWLING BEETLE MAKES ITS WAY OVER A VASE OF FLOWERS -- RECORDING THE ENTIRE MEETING!...

ALL OF US SHARED OUR SECRETS IN THE INTERESTS OF SCIENCE, AND WITHOUT THOUGHT OF PERSONAL GAIN! I MOVE WE CLOSE THE MEETING UNTIL TO TOMORROW...



THEN RIP NOTICES THE BEETLE -- APPARENTLY A HARMLESS INSECT -- FEEDING ON THE PLANT...

GET BACK, BOYS -- BACK HERE! GREAT GUNS! IT'S INCREDIBLE! BUT I THINK I'VE STUMBLED ON SECRET X!

YEAH? WHERE, RIP?



THERE--THAT **BEETLE**! WE'VE GOT TO FOLLOW IT! MANEUVER THIS MECHANICAL BUTTERFLY INTO POSITION!

A **BEETLE**! YA FEELIN' AWRIGHT, RIP?

ALL DIS--  
F'R A **BUG**  
YET?

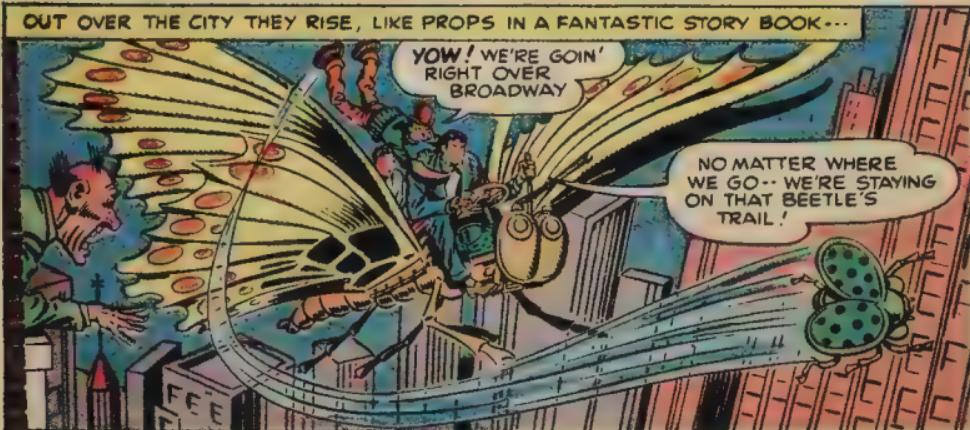
THIS BABY RIDES JUST  
LIKE A FIGHTER PLANE!  
HANG ON!



OUT OVER THE CITY THEY RISE, LIKE PROPS IN A FANTASTIC STORY BOOK...

YOW! WE'RE GOIN'  
RIGHT OVER  
BROADWAY

NO MATTER WHERE  
WE GO--WE'RE STAYING  
ON THAT BEETLE'S  
TRAIL!



NEARLY AN HOUR LATER, THE BEETLE DROPS LOWER AND LOWER, FINALLY ENTERING AN ABANDONED MINE SHAFT...

WE'LL LAND HERE!  
THAT MINE ENTRANCE  
IS OUR DESTINATION!

FOIST TIME I  
EVER SAW A  
BUTTERFLY  
MAKE A POIPECT  
TREE-POINT  
LANDIN'!



THEN... TIE HANDKERCHIEFS  
TIGHTLY AROUND  
YOUR SHOES! THIS WILL  
MUFFLE THE SOUND WHEN  
WE WALK OVER BITS OF  
COAL!

AN OLD  
COMMANDO  
TRICK, EH?



INSIDE...

SMART BEETLE!  
YOU HELPED  
ME EAVESDROP ON A  
BILLION DOLLARS WORTH  
OF VALUABLE SCIENTIFIC  
SECRETS! HA! HA! SECRET  
X WILL MAKE US RICH  
BEYOND IMAGINATION!

NOT QUITE,  
VANNERS! THE  
BIG HOLIDAY  
IS OVER!



THE BOY COMMANDOS!  
DEY FOUND US!

WHICH IS  
JUST TOO  
BAD, PALLY!



YUH MAKE  
QUITE A  
BRONCO,  
PARD!

TO BE  
SURE, AMI!

PULL A HEATER ON  
ME, KILLER--AN'  
I'LL PUNCH YER  
TEETH IN!  
LIKE DIS!

BOP!-BOP!  
BOP! BOP!-BOP!



LATER, WHEN THE GANG IS TURNED OVER TO  
THE POLICE...

SEE--SECRET X--A TINY  
TELEVISION CAMERA IN THE  
EYES--AND A RADIO  
CONCEALED IN THE  
MECHANICAL BODY! BY  
SENDING THIS BEETLE  
INTO VARIOUS PLACES,  
VANNERS WAS ABLE  
TO OVERHEAR SECRET  
PLANS!

HE STEERED THE BEETLE ONTO PLANTS  
AND FLOWERS--TO MAKE IT LOOK  
NATURAL! BUT THAT'S WHERE HE  
MADE HIS MISTAKE! FOR, AT THE  
MUSEUM HE HAD THE  
BEETLE CHEWING ON  
ARTIFICIAL PLANTS!  
THAT'S WHAT TIPPED  
ME OFF!

HEY! I NEVER  
TOUGHT O'  
DAT!



# For THRILLS!



# For ACTION!



**ASK** FOR THESE MAGAZINES  
AT YOUR FAVORITE  
NEWSSTAND!



# WANT A DAISY FOR CHRISTMAS?

## TRY THIS:

LOOK!

SEE NEW DAISYS, ACTION TARGET RANGE, DAISY AIR PISTOL... IN NEW DAISY COLOR CATALOG PRINTED IN HANDBOOK NO. 2. GET COPY NOW!

### DAISY AIR RIFLES CATALOG • FEATURING THE DAISY 1000 SHOT

#### RED RYDER COWBOY CARBINE

EXCERPT BY STEPHEN SULLIVAN N.Y.



SEE THEM IN BIG COLOR CATALOG!

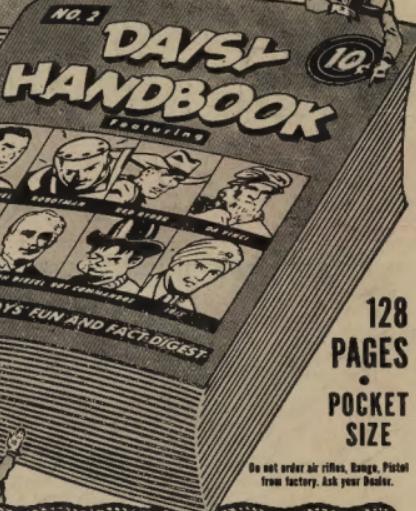


SEN'DUM COUPON  
AND WAMPUM (10¢ coin,  
3¢ stamp) FOR NO. 2 HAN-  
DBOOK WITH CATALOG!

ME BETCHUM YOU LIKE!  
—Says Little Beaver

First, send now for the completely new Daisy HANDBOOK No. 2 containing Daisy's latest Air Rifle CATALOG in full colors! When it arrives, show Catalog Section to the person most likely to get you a Daisy for Christmas or anytime! Besides helping you convince someone to get you a Daisy, this big, thick, 128-page Handbook will thrill you with its comics starring Red Ryder, Robotman, Captain Marvel, etc. Also: How Rockets Work How To Be A Cowboy, Sports Quiz Magic, Jokes, Indian Measuring Method, Bob Feller Picture Story, Marksmanship Manual. Get busy now—get your own Handbook! Don't wait. Send only one thin dime (10¢), unused 3¢ stamp, coupon below! Hurry!

SENDING FOR MY HANDBOOK  
NO. 2 MAY HELP YOU  
GET A DAISY! TRY IT!



128 PAGES  
POCKET SIZE

Do not order air rifles, Range, Pistol from factory. Ask your Dealer.

#### DAISY MANUFACTURING CO.

1558 Union St., PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, U.S.A.

Send postpaid \_\_\_\_\_ copies of HANDBOOK NO. 2 (CATALOG bound in). I enclose one thin dime (10¢) plus unused 3¢ stamp for EACH copy ordered. (A TIP: Thousands of boys are ordering an extra copy for the Girl Friend.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

St. & No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

BARGAIN SPECIAL: I enclose 25¢ in coin. Rush postpaid  
Handbook No. 2 AND big, 8-color "BOY'S BILL OF  
RIGHTS" Picture for my room!

Daisy Bull's Eye Shot  
is best for

**DAISY**  
AIR RIFLES

The Christmas gift every boy and girl wants most—

# ...a Schwinn-Built bicycle!



What a thrill to see that shiny new bike under the tree! It's a Christmas really to remember... for you, and for Mom and Dad, too.

Best of all, that big beauty boasts the famous Schwinn-Built trademark! And nobody knows better than you fellows and girls how important that Schwinn label is.

For over 50 years, Schwinn has manufactured the country's very finest bikes... for slick riding, for keen looks, for endurance. See the whole classy line. Find your nearest Schwinn dealer's name in the classified phone directory.



A Schwinn-Built bike is the one most kids want because it's modern... streamlined in every possible detail.

Schwinn-Built tubular rims can really take it... still run true! Frame electronically welded like Dad's car.

Schwinn-Built means "Super-Built"—only the finest materials and craftsmanship go into Schwinn-Built bicycles.

Ask about the "Long As You Own It" Guarantee. It comes with every bicycle that's Schwinn-Built.

**4 TIMES AS MANY  
KIDS WANT A SCHWINN  
AS WANT ANY OTHER  
BIKE**



Look for this famous seal before you buy a bike!

ARNOLD, SCHWINN & COMPANY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS